Conference on Disarmament

17 August 2018

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Note verbale dated 3 August 2018 from the Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations at Geneva addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament, and in its capacity as the Coordinator for the Group of 21

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations has the honour to submit herewith the G-21 Working paper on the work of the Conference on Disarmament.

On behalf of the Group of 21, the Permanent Mission of Viet Nam requests that the document be issued as an official Working paper of the Conference on Disarmament for the year 2018.

The permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations Office, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations at Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament the assurance of its highest consideration.

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The work of the Conference on Disarmament

1. The Group of 21 underscores the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation and reiterates its determination to promote multilateralism as the core principle of negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation.

2. The Group recalls that "seeking to advance the substantive work of the Conference in fulfilment of its mandate in accordance with SSOD I, the Conference decided to establish, in accordance with Paragraph 23 of its rules of procedure, subsidiary bodies on agenda items 1 (one) to 4 (four), and one on agenda items 5 (five), 6 (six) and 7 (seven), which could also consider emerging and other issues relevant to substantive work of the Conference."

3. In accordance with paragraph no. 2 of Decision CD/2119, "each subsidiary body will be chaired by a coordinator appointed by the Conference, under the guidance of the President on the basis of equitable geographic distribution". The Subsidiary Bodies will meet in accordance with the timetable annexed to the decision CD/2126.

4. The Decision CD/2119 also notes that the establishment of the subsidiary bodies is "Without prejudice to the rules of procedure of the Conference and the responsibilities entrusted to the President under the rules of procedure of the Conference on Disarmament, in particular rule 29 for drawing up the programme of work of the Conference".

5. The Group reiterates the urgency that the CD should adopt and implement a balanced and comprehensive Program of Work on the basis of its agenda and dealing with, inter alia, the core issues, in accordance with the rules of procedures.

6. The Group recalls that in accordance with paragraph 29 of its rules of procedure "the provisional agenda and the programme of work shall be drawn up by the President of the Conference with the assistance of the Secretary-General and presented to the Conference for consideration and adoption".

7. In this regard, the G-21 encourages all Member States to contribute to the work of the subsidiary bodies and to exert every effort and to work in concert with the Presidency of the Conference to adopt a programme of work at an early date.

8. The Group highlights the importance by all Member States of the CD to strictly adhere to the Rules of Procedure and the Decisions adopted by the CD.

9. The Group of 21 further stresses the need to maintain a constructive atmosphere in the CD.